

P-405/CP-90-84 ORDER CERTIFYING POLLING RESULTS, DENYING
PETITION, AND CLOSING DOCKET

BEFORE THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Don Storm	Chair
Tom Burton	Commissioner
Marshall Johnson	Commissioner
Cynthia A. Kitlinski	Commissioner
Dee Knaak	Commissioner

In the Matter of a Petition for
Extended Area Service from
Northrop to Truman

ISSUE DATE: October 8, 1993

DOCKET NO. P-405/CP-90-84

ORDER CERTIFYING POLLING
RESULTS, DENYING PETITION, AND
CLOSING DOCKET

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

On February 12, 1990, subscribers in the Northrop exchange petitioned for extended area service (EAS) to the Truman exchange. Northrop is served by Vista Telephone Company (Vista).

On January 28, 1993, the Commission issued its ORDER ADOPTING RATES FOR POLLING. In that Order the Commission found that the Northrop exchange is adjacent to the Truman exchange, and that sufficient traffic volume was sustained between the petitioning exchange and the petitioned exchange. The EAS petition had thus met the first two of three requirements under the EAS statute, Minn. Stat. § 237.161. The Commission also adopted proposed EAS rate additives in the Order.

Between June 30 and August 31, 1993, Northrop subscribers were informed of the proposed EAS rate additives and were polled to determine if a majority favored the installation of EAS to the Truman exchange.

The Commission met on September 14, 1993, to consider the results of the polling.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

Under Minn. Stat. § 237.161, the Commission shall grant a petition for the installation of EAS only if the following three criteria are met:

1. The petitioning exchange is contiguous to an exchange or local calling area to which extended area service is requested in the petition;

2. At least 50 percent of the customers in the petitioning exchange make one or more calls per month to the exchange or local calling area to which extended area service is requested, as determined by a traffic study;
3. Polling by the Commission shows that a majority of the customers responding to a poll in the petitioning exchange favor its installation, unless all parties and the Commission agree that no polling is necessary.

In this case, the Commission has previously determined that the petition has fulfilled the first and second requirements of the EAS statute. The Commission must now determine if the third and final criterion has been fulfilled.

Approximately 75 percent of Northrop subscribers responded to the EAS poll. Of those responding, 40 voted in favor of the installation of EAS and 135 voted against it. Since a majority of those responding did not vote in favor of EAS, the petition has failed to meet the third and final criterion under Minn. Stat. § 237.161.

The Commission will certify the polling results, deny the petition, and close the docket.

ORDER

1. The Commission certifies the polling results set forth in this Order.
2. The Northrop-Truman EAS petition is denied.
3. Within 10 days of the date of this Order, Vista shall submit to the Commission a proposed notice of polling results, in the form of a bill insert. After receiving Commission Staff approval of the proposed notice, Vista shall notify its Northrop customers of the polling results in the earliest possible billing cycle.
4. Within 30 days after it has given notice to Northrop subscribers, Vista shall notify Commission Staff of that fact in writing and this docket will be closed.
5. This Order shall become effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Susan Mackenzie
Acting Executive Secretary

(S E A L)